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REPORT	
Country (Soviet Zone)	50X1-HUM
Subject: Military Information from Dessau	
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED
CLASS OF CONTENT	50X1-HUM
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED 5 September 1951
REFERENCES	
PAGES 2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS	50X1-HUM

1. During the first half of August 1951, the hutment of Gross Kuehnau near Dessau (M 52/E 17) was occupied by a Soviet unit and was very strictly guarded. [redacted] the troops there were restricted to quarters. It was said that a concrete road would be constructed from the camp to the Dessau-Kuehnau highway. A truck [redacted] was seen driving toward the camp. (1) 50X1-HUM
2. A bivouac of an engineer unit was located about 300 meters upstream of the Elbe River bridge at Rossau. Emergency bridges were being constructed there and opposite on the river sector between Rietzbeck and Brambach (M 52/E 07). The bridges consisted of iron sections but were built only a short distance over the river. Troops were seen crossing the river in amphibious cars and pontoons on 15 August, and the operation was screened by smoke. (2) 50X1-HUM
3. On the morning of 2 August, an engineer unit with pontoons, amphibious cars and bridge-building equipment was loaded on a train of 20 to 25 flatcars and 18 boxcars at the Dessau freight yard. Trucks [redacted] and others were observed. The boxcars were boarded by troops. An engineer unit with 10 boxcarloads of pneumatic rafts and an unidentified number of pontoons and bridge-building equipment was unloaded at the freight yard in the afternoon of the same day. Trucks [redacted] and others were observed with the unit. (3) 50X1-HUM
4. An engineer unit with trucks [redacted] and others [redacted] was unloaded at the Dessau freight yard on the morning of 3 August. Another engineer unit, which was detained in the afternoon, had trucks [redacted] 50X1-HUM
5. An engineer unit which was loaded at the Dessau freight yard on the evening of 13 August had engineer equipment of all types including a large number of small folding boats. [redacted] The condition of the troops and equipment indicated that the unit had come directly from a field exercise. (5) 50X1-HUM

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6. Vehicles [redacted] were identified driving from Rossau toward Koethen on 13 August 1951. (6)

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Comments.

- (1) [redacted] the hutment to have been occupied in mid-July 1951. Although the identity of the units in the installation has not been determined, it is fairly definitely believed that engineer troops are quartered there. The truck [redacted] belongs to a headquarters unit of the Third Gds Mecz Army. 50X1-HUM
- (2) The bivouac is probably the camp [redacted] at the Elbe River training site southeast of Rossau on 1 July 1951. [redacted] Troops have been receiving training in the handling of heavy bridge-building equipment there and in the Rietzneck-Brambach sector. 50X1-HUM
- (3) The engineer vehicles entrained on 2 August belonged to the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, the XXVIII Mtz Rifle Corps and/or the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, probably returning to the engineer training camp at Bad Koesen from where it left for Dessau in mid-July 1951. [redacted] The vehicles unloaded belonged to the 57th and 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Divs and the XXVIII Mtz Rifle Corps. They may have come from Bad Koesen. 50X1-HUM
- (4) The vehicles of the engineer units are assigned primarily to the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div and the XXVIII Mtz Rifle Corps, with some vehicles belonging also to the 20th Gds Mecz Div [redacted] The units may have come from [redacted] Dardraf.
- (5) [redacted] the unit belonged to the engineer battalion of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.
- (6) Probably vehicles of the unidentified engineer regiment of the GDFC from Dornburg.

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